

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

TOP SECRET

TO: [REDACTED] 25X1
DATE: 14 Jan 1965 14/1831
FROM: DIRECTOR 25X1

CONF:

INFO:

25X1

ROUTING	
1 FVN	9 LBN
2 DAD	10 ASIA
3 PDI/OSA	11 OASIS
4 D-1	12 U
5 DCI	13 CINCPAC
6 DNDP	14 OIEA
7 SIC	15
8 XIS	16

PRIORITY	DEFERRED	PRIORITY	DEFERRED
ROUTINE	ROUTINE	OPERATIONAL	IMMEDIATE

25X1

OSA 1-15/00

123001Z

TO: IMMEDIATE [REDACTED]

INFO

CITE

'IDEALIST

C02

25X1 PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO GENERAL CARTER OR MR. KNOCHIE
SOONEST ON THEIR ARRIVAL [REDACTED] EYES ONLY, IN A SEALED ENVELOPE.
25X1

DR. WHEELON SENDS. FOLLOWING IS MESSAGE WE PROPOSE TO SEND

TO [REDACTED] REQUEST YOUR REVIEW AND PERMISSION FOR RELEASE.

25X1 WE FEEL IT IMPERATIVE THAT [REDACTED] HAVE AUTHORITY FOR PROPOSED
DISCUSSION WITH [REDACTED] AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE ARE MOST

25X1

25X1 CONCERNED THAT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SA-2 SITES TO COMMUNITY COULD
RESULT IN [REDACTED] PRIOR ANY [REDACTED]
AWAIT YOUR REPLY.

25X1

"1. APPRECIATE DETAILED, INFORMATIVE AND TIMELY

25X1 ACCOUNT OF [REDACTED] TO LOSS OF MISSION C-025-C.

25X1

"2. THE QUESTION OF [REDACTED] PER

25X1 WHICH BOthers [REDACTED] HAS ALSO BEEN OF MAJOR CONCERN TO US. LITTLE

EDD [REDACTED]

RS [REDACTED]

RP [REDACTED]

KB [REDACTED]

WC [REDACTED]

MORI/CDF

COORDINATING OFFICERS

TOP SECRET

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AUTHENTICATION OFFICER

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~~CLASSIFIED MESSAGE~~

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TOP SECRET

ROUTING		ROUTING	
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REFERRED BY	REFERRED BY	PRIORITY	HOURS
	ROUTING	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	HOURS

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CONSTRUCTIVE EVIDENCE CAN BE DERIVED UNTIL THERE HAS
BEEN TIME FOR A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE [REDACTED]
TAPES WHICH WILL TAKE SEVERAL DAYS AFTER THEIR RECEIPT
IN HEADQUARTERS. AT THE MOMENT, AND WITHOUT HAVING
HEARD THE TAPES, SURFACE SPECULATION BASED UPON

DURING THE

PERIOD 1300-1400Z WITHIN THE ENVELOPE OF THE INCIDENT,
CONCEIVABLY MAY HAVE A BEARING ON THIS QUESTION. THE
PRELIMINARY FEELING HERE IS THAT ANY [REDACTED]

25x1

25x1

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

ROUTING

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ROUTING	DEFERRED	PRIORITY	THURSDAY
	ROUTING	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	PRINTED

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25X1

TO [REDACTED] INFO CITE

WOULD BE A SIGNIFICANTLY MAJOR

TECHNICAL CHANGE AND WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE TO HAVE
 ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE INTERVAL BETWEEN THE 25 NOVEMBER
 LAN CHOU ATTEMPTED SHOOTDOWN AND THE 10 JANUARY LOSS.

25X1

3. AS WAS SUGGESTED IN [REDACTED] MESSAGE OF 12 JAN, ALL ELEMENTS
 CONCERNED IN [REDACTED] ARE UNDERTAKING INTENSIVE STUDY OF NOT ONLY
 SUCH POSSIBILITIES AS ARE SUGGESTED BY PARA 2, REF. BUT CONSTRUCTIVELY
 TO SEE IF THERE ARE NOW CHANGES IN [REDACTED] WHICH

COULD BE USEFULLY MADE IN THE NEAR TERM SO AS TO ANTICIPATE
 TACTICAL CHANGES ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF [REDACTED] THERE ARE
 ALSO SEVERAL LONG TERM POSSIBILITIES, STUDY OF WHICH HAD BEGUN
 PRIOR TO 10 JAN, WHICH SHOW PROMISE IN GIVING ADDITIONAL VERIFI-

TION ON [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

4. RE PARA 3, REF., THE AFTERNOON OF 10 JANUARY HQ6 OBTAINED
 COMOR CONCURRENCE IN TARGETING THE NEXT KH SYSTEM FLIGHT ON THIS

25X1

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

ROUTING

ONTO:
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TOP SECRET

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PRIORITY	DEFERRED	PRIORITY	ROUTING	INFO
	ROUTING	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	INFO	

42784

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TO

INFO

CITE

PAO TAU AREA AND A REQUEST FOR SUCH COVERAGE WAS TRANSMITTED TO THE ODUNIT CONTROL CENTER WITHIN 8 HOURS OF NOTIFICATION OF THE LOSS. AT THE SAME TIME [REDACTED] WAS REQUESTED TO COMMENCE AN INTENSIVE, DETAILED, ANALYTIC STUDY OF ALL AVAILABLE MATERIALS ON THE PAO TAU AREA WITH FOCUS SHARPENED ON THE REGION OF THE LAST REPORTED ACFT POSITION. BY THE EARLY EVENING OF 11 JAN

[REDACTED] HAD SUCCESSFULLY IDENTIFIED NOT ONE BUT [REDACTED] TWO HIGHLY SUSPECT AND VERY PROBABLY OPERATIONAL SAM SITES IN THE PAO TAU AREA, ONE OF WHICH WAS APPROXIMATELY 48 NM EAST OF THE CITY WITH THE SECOND SITUATED SOME 26 NM SOUTHEAST THEREOF. MISSION

TRACK [REDACTED] TERMINATED WITHIN THE LETHAL

CIRCLES WHICH OVERLAPPED FROM BOTH SITES. THIS MAY WELL EXPLAIN THE PROMPTNESS WITH WHICH THE CHICOMS WERE ABLE TO ANNOUNCE THE LOSS WHEN COUPLED WITH THE GOOD ACTUAL PREVAILING WEATHER AND WITH THE FACT THAT NIGHT-TIME SHOOT DOWNS ARE INITIALLY THE MORE

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PREFACE

CONT.

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

TOP SECRET

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ROUTING	DEFERRED	PRIORITY	IMMEDIATE
	ROUTINE	OPERATIONAL	IMMEDIATE

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INJECT

CITE

EASY TO VERIFY THAN ARE THOSE IN DAYLIGHT WHERE SUN OR WEATHER
MAY COMBINE TO MAKE CONFIRMATION MORE DIFFICULT.

5. THE SAM SITES MENTIONED ABOVE WERE EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT TO VERIFY FOR THE MOST PART BECAUSE THEY DID NOT FOLLOW THE TRADITIONAL SIGNATURE AND THEIR OPERATIONAL STATUS WAS DIFFICULT TO ASCERTAIN BECAUSE OF THE SCALE OF THE COVERAGE. [REDACTED] HAD SEARCHED THE AREA BEFORE WITHOUT FINDING THEM. HOWEVER, ONCE THEY WERE TENTATIVELY IDENTIFIED A CAREFUL LOOK AT THE SAME LOCATION IN PRIOR PHOTOGRAPHY DISCLOSED EVIDENCE OF THEIR

EXISTENCE GOING BACK AT LEAST TO [REDACTED] N VARYING STAGES OF COMPLETION. THEY WERE POSITIVELY NEGATED IN THE ONLY PRIOR COVERAGE OF PAO TOU BY KH SYSTEMS IN [REDACTED] AT APPROX

THE SAME TIME IN [REDACTED] THE LAST TACKLE MSN TO PAO TAU WAS FLOWN
SUCCESSFULLY AND WITHOUT THE SAME EVIDENCE OF SAM ACTIVITY.

WE ARE BEING COMPLETELY FRANK WITH YOU IN TELLING THE

COORDINATING OFFICERS

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GROUP 2

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

CLASSIFIED MILITARY

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TOP SECRET

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PRIORITY	INFO
ROUTINE	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE

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INFO

CITE

25X1

CHRONOLOGY OF THESE FINDINGS SO AS TO GIVE YOU THE PROPER INFORMATION BASE FROM WHICH TO GAUGE YOUR TACTICS

25X1

INFORMATION ABOUT THE

EXISTENCE OF THESE SAMS HAS BEEN MADE AVAILABLE ON A NOFORN HOLDDOWN BASIS TO THE NORMAL KH CONSUMER COMMUNITY, INCLUDING CINCPAC, CINCPAC FLT, PACAF, AND COMNAVFORJAP. THIS WAS

THE JOB OF SEARCH AND IDENTIFICATION WITH THE KH SYSTEMS OVER A COUNTRY AS LARGE AS MAINLAND CHINA IS, AND ALTHOUGH HAS BEEN, AN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT ONE. THE UNFORTUNATE CIRCUMSTANCE OF NOT HAVING FOUND THESE KEY INSTALLATIONS IS

PAINFULLY EVIDENT TO EVERYONE.

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

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TOP SECRET

ROUTING

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PRIORITY	DEFERRED	PRIORITY	ROUTINE
ROUTINE	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	EXPIRES	ROUTINE

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TO

INFO

CITE

THROUGH IT

25X1

25X1

MIKE BE WELL TO STRESS THE LIMITATIONS OF KH SYSTEMS IN
 COMPARISON WITH THE MUCH HIGHER ACUITY OF THE TACKLE CAMERAS.
 IT IS FOR THIS LAST REASON, OF COURSE, THAT WE REMAIN FIRM IN THE
 OPINION THAT THE PROPER RELATIONSHIP OF THE TWO SYSTEMS IS THROUGH
 EMPLOYMENT IN A MANNER WHERE ONE SUPPLEMENTS AND ENLARGES
 UPON THE OTHER.

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

TOP SECRET

CHARGE
NAME'S
TEL.
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ROUTING	
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8	16
PRIORITY	ROUTINE
OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	ROUTINE

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48761 25X1

TO:

INFO:

CITE:

REASSURED OF OUR RENEWED ATTENTION AND CONCERN FOR MAXIMIZING MISSION SAFETY, NOT ONLY THROUGH EQUIPMENT TECHNOLOGY ON THE ACFT, BUT BY AN EVEN CLOSER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN KH COVERAGE AND TACKLE MISSION PLANNING. YOUR COMMENTS ARE, OF COURSE, SOLICITED.

END OF MESSAGE

25X

25X

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